[0078] At a step **616** a message may be received from a provider. Typically, the message will at least identify the location of the provider. At a decision step **620**, it is determined if the provider is at the request location (i.e., within a predefined vicinity around the request location) based on the location in the provider's messages. A provider message may be transmitted automatically by a provider's portable device. For example, a provider's portable device may periodically transmit such messages. If not, operation may continue at step **604** where additional or other customer requests are received.

[0079] If the provider is at the request location, it is determined at decision step **624**, if the customer is also at the request location. If the customer is at the request location the provider may simply greet or otherwise interact with the customer since the provider and customer are at the same location. If the customer is not at the request location, an alert or notification may be generated at the customer's portable device. The notification may be transmitted from the server to the customer's portable device for presentation to the customer. In one or more embodiments, the notification will inform the customer that the provider is at the request location. Thereafter, the requested goods or services can be transacted between the provider and customer.

[0080] As can be seen, since a customer request includes the location where the request was made, virtually any location may be used as a pickup or drop off location with the communication system herein.

[0081] While various embodiments of the invention have been described, it will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art that many more embodiments and implementations are possible that are within the scope of this invention. In addition, the various features, elements, and embodiments described herein may be claimed or combined in any combination or arrangement.

What is claimed is:

1. A communication system comprising:

one or more communication devices that receive a plurality of requests, each of the plurality of requests comprising location information and associated with at least one user identifier, wherein the location information is generated by location detecting devices that determine the location where each request was made, the location information including the location; and

one or more processors that:

identify a subset of the plurality of requests within one or more predefined areas around a message received by the one or more communication devices using the location information;

transmit a notification to one or more user devices, the one or more user devices being those identified by the at least one user identifier associated with each of the one or more requests in the subset;

wherein the one or more user devices are outside the one or more predefined areas when the notification is transmitted.

2. The communication system of claim **1** further comprising one or more storage devices that store the plurality of requests.

3. The communication system of claim **1**, wherein each of the plurality of requests include a request for goods or services.

4. The communication system of claim **1**, wherein a predefined period of time elapses before the notification is transmitted.

5. A communication system comprising:

one or more communication devices that receive a plurality of requests, each of the plurality of requests comprising location information and associated with at least one user identifier, wherein the location information is generated by one or more location detecting devices that determine the location where each of the plurality of requests was made, the location information including the location; and

one or more processors that:

identify a subset of the plurality of requests by determining if a message received by the one or more communication devices is within one or more predefined areas around each of the plurality of requests;

transmit a notification to one or more user devices, the one or more user devices being those identified by the at least one user identifier associated with each of the requests in the subset;

wherein the one or more user devices are outside the one or more predefined areas when the notification is transmitted.

6. The communication system of claim **5** further comprising one or more storage devices that store the plurality of requests.

7. The communication system of claim **5**, wherein each of the plurality of requests includes a request for goods or services.

8. The communication system of claim **5**, wherein a predefined period of time elapses before the notification is transmitted.

9. A non-transitory storage medium storing instructions that, when executed, cause one or more processors to:

identify a subset of a plurality of requests by determining if a message is geographically located within one or more predefined areas around each of the plurality of requests, wherein each of the plurality of requests comprises location information generated by one or more remote location detecting devices and is associated with at least one user identifier; and

transmit a notification to one or more user devices via one or more communication devices, the one or more user devices being those identified by the at least one user identifier associated with each of the requests in the subset;

wherein the one or more user devices are outside the one or more predefined areas when the notification is transmitted.

10. The non-transitory storage medium of claim **9**, wherein the instructions cause the one or more processors to transmit the message to the one or more users.

11. The communication system of claim **9**, wherein a predefined period of time elapses before the notification is transmitted.

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